

CLAIMS

1. An image adjustment method of transferring a plurality of color component images by a transfer unit, detecting a
5 superimposed state of the respective transferred color component images with a sensor, and adjusting an image transfer position, based on detected results, to correctly superimpose the respective color component images, comprising the steps of:

accepting information giving an instruction to detect a
10 superimposed state of the respective color component images;
starting detection of a superimposed state of the respective color component images by controlling an operation of the sensor, upon acceptance of the information; and
stopping operations other than control of the operation of
15 the sensor and accepting of detection results of the sensor, when detecting the superimposed state.

2. An image forming apparatus for forming an image by superimposing a plurality of color component images by separately
20 transferring each color component, comprising:
a housing capable of being opened and closed;
an image sensor for detecting a superimposed state of the respective transferred color component images;
an open/close sensor for detecting opening and closing of
25 the housing; and

a controller capable of performing operations of:
controlling an operation of the image sensor;
accepting information giving an instruction to detect a
superimposed state of the respective color component images; and

5 stopping operations other than control of the operation of
the image sensor, accepting of detection results of the image sensor
and accepting of detection results of the open/close sensor, when the
accepting means accepts the information.

10 3. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 2,
wherein the image sensor detects a superimposed state of the
respective color component images on a predetermined cycle.

4. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 3,
15 further comprising a fixing section for fixing the respective
transferred color component images onto a recording carrier,
wherein the controller is capable of performing further
operations of:

supplying power to the fixing section; and
20 stopping the supply of power to the fixing section when
transferring the respective color component images and detecting a
superimposed state of the respective color component images.

5. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 3,
25 further comprising:

a fixing section for fixing the respective transferred color component images onto a recording carrier; and

a cooling section provided to lower temperature around the fixing section,

5 wherein the controller is capable of performing further operations of:

supplying power to the cooling section; and

stopping the supply of power to the cooling section when transferring the respective color component images and detecting a
10 superimposed state of the respective color component images.

6. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the controller stops the supply of power to the cooling section after stopping the supply of power to the fixing section,
15 when transferring the respective color component images and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component images.

7. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising: a fixing section for fixing the respective transferred color component images onto a recording carrier,
20 wherein the controller is capable of performing further operations of:

supplying power to the fixing section; and

25 stopping the supply of power to the fixing section when

transferring the respective color component images and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component images.

8. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 2,
5 further comprising:

a fixing section for fixing the respective transferred color component images onto a recording carrier; and

a cooling section provided to lower temperature around the fixing section,

10 wherein the controller is capable of performing further operations of:

supplying power to the cooling section; and

stopping the supply of power to the cooling section when transferring the respective color component images and detecting a
15 superimposed state of the respective color component images.

9. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8,
wherein the controller stops the supply of power to the cooling section after stopping the supply of power to the fixing
20 section, when transferring the respective color component images and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component images.

10. An image forming apparatus for forming an image by
25 superimposing a plurality of color component images by separately

transferring each color component, comprising:

a housing capable of being opened and closed;

accepting means for accepting information giving an instruction to detect a superimposed state of the respective color
5 component images;

image detecting means for detecting a superimposed state of the respective transferred color component images;

control means for controlling an operation of the image detecting means; and

10 open/close detecting means for detecting opening and closing of the housing,

wherein operations other than control of the operation of the image detecting means by the control means, accepting of detection results of the image detecting means and accepting of
15 detection results of the open/close detecting means are stopped when the accepting means accepts the information.

11. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein the image detecting means detects a superimposed state of
20 the respective color component images on a predetermined cycle.

12. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 11, further comprising:

fixing means for fixing the respective transferred color
25 component images onto a recording carrier; and

means for supplying power to the fixing means,
wherein the supply of power to the fixing means is stopped
when transferring the respective color component images and
detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component
5 images.

13. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 11,
further comprising:

fixing means for fixing the respective transferred color
10 component images onto a recording carrier;
cooling means provided to lower temperature around the
fixing means; and
means for supplying power to the cooling means,
wherein the supply of power to the cooling means is
15 stopped when transferring the respective color component images
and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color
component images.

14. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 13,
20 further comprising means for performing control to stop the supply
of power to the cooling section after stopping the supply of power to
the fixing means, when transferring the respective color component
images and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color
component images.

15. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 10,
further comprising:

fixing means for fixing the respective transferred color
component images onto a recording carrier; and

5 means for supplying power to the fixing means,
wherein the supply of power to the fixing means is stopped
when transferring the respective color component images and
detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component
images.

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16. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 10,
further comprising:

fixing means for fixing the respective transferred color
component images onto a recording carrier;

15 cooling means provided to lower temperature around the
fixing means; and

means for supplying power to the cooling means,
wherein the supply of power to the cooling means is
stopped when transferring the respective color component images
20 and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color
component images.

17. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 16,
further comprising means for performing control to stop the supply
25 of power to the cooling means after stopping the supply of power to

the fixing means, when transferring the respective color component images and detecting a superimposed state of the respective color component images.